

### Amendments to the Specification

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

FIG. 2 is an assembled perspective view of the engine components illustrated in FIG. 1, with the engine head and head gasket removed for clarity.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:**

The cylinder sleeve 140 is preferably press-fitted into the bottom portion of the cylinder-can wall 152 of the cylinder bore 155. The upper portion of the wall 152, which defines a portion of the step 151, abuts against the lower surface 145 of the upper portion 144 of the sleeve, while a small vertical gap 149 is created between the lower surface 147 of the sleeve and the engine block 150. The small gap 149 between lower surface 147 of the sleeve and the engine block 150 enables reliable, consistent engagement of the lower surface ~~147-145~~ of the sleeve upper portion 144 with the step 151 of the cylinder-can wall. The gap 149 additionally accommodates thermal expansion and contraction of the cylinder sleeve 140 and the upper portion of block 150, thereby avoiding, or at least minimizing, interference between the lower surface 147 of the sleeve and the engine block 150 (FIG. 4). However, in other embodiments of the invention, the gap 149 may be eliminated if so desired.